

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 16160

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JA, KN, KS, UNGA
SUBJECT: KOREA QUESTION IN UN

REF: A) USUN 5762 (EXDIS); B) STATE 259571; C) STATE 263797;
D) TOKYO 14853

SUMMARY: MOFA UN BUREAU DIRGEN OKAWA ASSURED CHARGE ON
NOVEMBER 10 THAT GOJ WILL KEEP ITS PROPOSAL FOR US-DPRK
CONTACTS ON ARMISTICE UNDER VERY CLOSE WRAPS. HE STRESSED
FONMIN'S GREAT PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE PROPOSAL. END
SUMMARY.

1. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF A (JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOR
US-DPRK BILATERAL CONTACT AS STEPPING STONE TO US-DPRK-ROK
TALKS), CHARGE HAD REQUESTED MEETING WITH UN BUREAU DIRGEN
OKAWA TO CONVEY POINTS IN REFS A AND B (OUR PLEASURE AT
JAPANESE COOPERATION ON KOREA QUESTION AND OUR DISSATISFACTION
WITH OTHER ASIAN FRIENDS). OKAWA INVITED CHARGE TO
LUNCH NOVEMBER 10 AND DISCUSSION NATURALLY CENTERED
ON GOJ PROPOSAL.

2. CHARGE EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT USG PROBABLY
WOULD HAVE TO EXAMINE JAPANESE PROPOSAL AND DRAFT RESOLUTION
VERY CAREFULLY. HE THOUGHT WE WOULD WANT, FOR EXAMPLE,
TO HAVE A VERY CLEAR NOTION OF NORTH KOREAN INTENTIONS;
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IF WE AGREED TO TALK ABOUT MAINTENANCE OF ARMISTICE ON

A BILATERAL BASIS, WHAT WOULD PYONGYANG AGREE TO IN RETURN? IN ANY EVENT, CHARGE CAUTIONED, ANY SURFACING OF JAPANESE PROPOSAL AT THIS POINT WOULD SERIOUSLY PREJUDICE EFFORT WHICH MUST BE MADE TO HOLD FIRM SUPPORT FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION.

3. OKAWA AGREED COMPLETELY THAT MATTER MUST BE KEPT UNDER VERY CLOSE WRAPS. PUBLIC WILL SEE ONLY THAT JAPAN IS WORKING VERY HARD WITH US TO HOLD THE VOTES OBTAINED IN 1ST COMMITTEE. OKAWA NOTED AMB. YASUKAWA'S REPORT THAT ASST SECRETARY HABIB HAD TOLD HIM DPRK RIGIDITY LEFT US LITTLE ROOM FOR MANEUVER AND THAT USG IS VERY RELUCTANT TO SHOW ANY SIGNS OF FLEXIBILITY BEFORE PLENARY VOTE.

4. THOUGH OKAWA SAID NOTHING TO INDICATE THAT JAPANESE WOULD PROCEED WITHOUT US BLESSING, HE STRESSED THAT FONMIN MIYAZAWA IS VERY ANXIOUS TO EXPLORE IDEA. IT APPEARS TO EMBASSY -- THOUGH OKAWA DID NOT SAY SO EXPLICITLY -- THAT PROPOSAL IS SECGEN'S RESPONSE TO SUGGESTION BY MIYAZAWA (REF D) THAT SECGEN FACILITATE US-DPRK TALKS. OKAWA OPINED THAT SECGEN MIGHT PLAY GO-BETWEEN ROLE AS IN CYPRUS TALKS, OR PERHAPS ENGAGE IN "SHUTTLE" DIPLOMACY.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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